

City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2006

The City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee met on Tuesday, July 18, 2006 in the Atrium Room of the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Members Present: Laurie Kelly, Katherine Kelly, Sanjay Grover, Greg Castano

Members Absent: Jay Lee, Robert Patten

Staff Present: Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner

Others Present: Dan Turner, David Suls, Margaret Warner, Walter Hill

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10.

2. Introductions

Prospective members of the committee and members of the committee as well as staff introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Minutes: review and vote on adoption

The minutes from the April 18th, 2006 meeting were reviewed and adopted unanimously.

4. Action Items

Officer Elections: Laurie Kelly was nominated for the first Chair position and accepted the nomination. Bob Patten was nominated for the First Vice-Chair position. Katherine Kelly was nominated to the Second Vice-Chair position and accepted the nomination.

Action: A motion was made to elect the slate (pending acceptance of the First Vice-Chair nomination). A vote was called and Laurie Kelly was elected to the Chair position, Bob Patton for First Vice-Chair (pending acceptance of nomination), and Katherine Kelly for Second Vice-Chair.

FY07 Budget – Priorities and and Projects for this year: Laurie Kelly noted that the City has \$10,000 budgeted for Safe Roadways Committee related projects or spending in the FY-07 Budget. Any items purchased/installed or otherwise related to this funding must be completed by June 30, 2007. In addition, to affect next years budget, the Committee's Budget Priorities should

be completed in January so that the Council has them while they are developing their priorities before developing the budget.

Ilona noted that there were several items in the City's FY07 budget/work plan, some of which are related to priorities. These include:

- Sidewalks: staff are working on researching sidewalk ordinances and parts missing from the City ordinance
- SHA: staff is coordinating with State Highway on issues throughout the City
- Holton Lane: City has grant money to install pedestrian oriented lighting along Holton Lane along with shade trees (FY07-08)
- ADA: City has grant money to hire consultants to assess City street network compliance with ADA, to develop a plan for compliance (in accordance with ADA) and to initiate construction to begin to bring the network into compliance (FY07-08)
- Maple Avenue: City has grant money to hold a series of workshops with the community along Maple Avenue between Philadelphia and Sligo Creek to address trees, public and semi-public space, street furniture with the purpose as Phase I of transforming this portion of Maple Avenue into a more civic street (FY07-08)
- Carroll Avenue Streetscape: The City is applying for grant funding to complete Carroll Avenue
- Wayfinding: City does not have approval for directional signage, but does have approval for "Welcome" signage and kiosks that will provide maps to pedestrians on foot.
- Metropolitan Branch Trail: the trail is nearly complete.
- Neighborhood Traffic Study: \$\$ earmarked for more comprehensive traffic study for neighborhoods with multiple City streets with traffic calming issues.
- Elm at Auburn and Lincoln: construction of sidewalk to Ethan Allan tightening of intersections/traffic circle.
- Glenside and Wildwood: construction of sidewalks to New Hampshire Avenue and tighten intersection.
- Sidewalk: The CIP usually has some minimal funding for sidewalk
- Lighting: The CIP has 20K for lighting usually prioritized for locations of high crime and/or where there are pedestrians in the evening who feel unsafe.
- Safe Routes to Schools: City will apply for grant funding for programming and construction funding.

The priority list from 2005 was examined. Members raised Safe Routes to School, also projects around the metro, Education regarding bus routes, a pedestrian safety application at one location such as flashing in line lights at a crosswalk, sidewalks, and sidewalk access for school bus stops, and an inventory of sidewalks.

It was decided that the committee would brainstorm ideas on the listserv to develop a list for discussion at the August meeting.

5. Brief Announcements / Updates

Safe Routes to School: Staff will attend a training in August and hold a workshop to develop a grant application shortly after. Staff requested assistance from the Committee in facilitating the workshop groups.

Safe Roadways Projects: Most of the bike racks have been installed and the bus schedule holders have also been installed. There have been sightings of people using them since they were installed.

Walkable Communities – Report on Community Discussion: The report on community discussion at the Walkable Communities workshops last fall was distributed, along with a link to the Council discussion when they reviewed the report. It is expected that the Council will hold another worksession to discuss the report in September. If the Committee would like to advise the Council when it comes up on the agenda, Committee members should review the report and discussion.

Parking Study: Staff handed out copies of the Maple Avenue Parking Study, which will be presented to the Council July 24th.

4. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully Submitted

Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner

Approved

Laurie Kelly, Chair